Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Erwin Knodel was born on February 16, 1909, to John and Jacobina (Pfeiffer) Knodel in Charles Mix County, South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Erwin married Lea Hochhalter on December 29, 1929, and to this union three children were born, Virginia, Jerald, and Shirley, who further blessed their lives with nine grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Erwin farmed in Charles Mix County from 1929 to 1941, owned and operated a business in Armour, South Dakota, until 1964, when he semi-retired and became a substitute rural mail carrier and part-time police officer for the city of Armour; and,

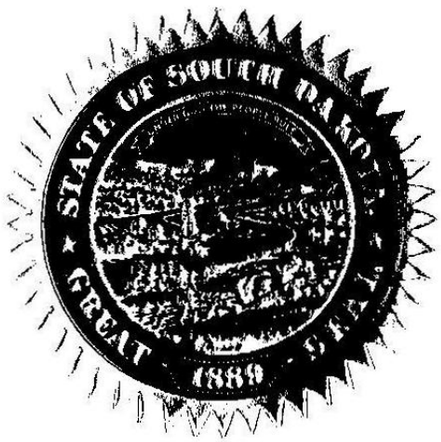
Whereas, Erwin served on the Armour Volunteer Fire Department for many years and on the Armour Town Council, owned and piloted a small airplane, rode motorcycles until his late 80s, and enjoyed hunting waterfowl, big game, and small game; and,

Whereas, Erwin currently lives at Golden Living Center in Armour, South Dakota, and will observe his 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather on February 14, 2009, to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 16, 2009, as

ERWIN KNODEL DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all his many friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Second Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State